

REMARKS

Claims 5-22 are pending in the application, claims 1-4 being canceled herein, and claims 9-22 being new.

Allowed Claims 5-8

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 5-8 are **allowed**.

Claim 1 over PRIOR ART

In the Office Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by PRIOR ART. Claim 1 is canceled herein, thereby mooting the rejection in this regard. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 2-4 over PRIOR ART in view of Hudson or Laybourn

Claims 2-4 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over PRIOR ART in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,249,573 to Hudson ("Hudson") or U.S. Pat. No. 6,480,710 to Laybourn et al. ("Laybourn"). Claims 2-4 are canceled herein, thereby mooting the rejection in this regard. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

New Claims 9-22

New claims 9-22 are drafted with the patentable features of allowed claims 4-8 in mind. It is respectfully submitted that new claims 9-22 are patentable for all the reasons that claims 4-8 are patentable.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William H. Bollman', written over a horizontal line.

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